

October 15, 2021 Renewed Permit No. QC 754

## MASTER PERMIT FOR THE SHIPMENT OF APPLES FROM VIRGINIA TO CALIFORNIA

Under authority of Section 3154 (Secretary May Issue Special Permits) of Title 3, California Code of Regulations, permission is hereby granted to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to authorize firms to ship to California apples which were commercially grown in Virginia, and which otherwise would be prohibited entry into California unless the requirements of Section 3266, Plum Curculio and Blueberry Maggot Exterior Quarantine, were satisfied, under the following conditions:

## VDACS shall ensure that:

- 1. Apples authorized for shipment to California under this permit shall have been grown by **Turkey Knob Growers** and produced only in the Virginia Counties of Frederick, Clarke, Campbell, Shenandoah, Rockingham, Nelson, and Albemerle. Virginia apples produced in other counties shall not be shipped under this permit.
- 2. There shall be no commingling of apples from the six approved counties with apples from other origins.
- 3. Apples authorized for shipment under this permit shall be packed in and shipped from the approved counties only.
- 4. Apples authorized for shipment to California under this permit shall not have been harvested earlier than September 1<sup>st</sup> of each growing season.
- 5. Firms approved to ship apples to California under this permit are assigned unique identification numbers.
- 6. Prior to commencement of shipping, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services, Permits and Regulations, is provided with the names, addresses, and identification numbers of approved shippers.
- 7. All apples to be shipped under the terms of this permit shall be washed, sorted, and placed in clean or new non-field containers. The apples shall either be transported in these containers or in a truck which has been cleaned thoroughly prior to filling.
- 8. All lots of apples destined for California under this permit receive postharvest sampling and inspection as specified in Appendix A of this permit.



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- 9. Each box of apples shipped to California under this permit is clearly marked with the approved shipper's identification number.
- 10. Each shipment of apples sent to California shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by a representative of VDACS affirming that the shipment is in compliance with the requirements of QC754. The VDACS certificate shall include the approved shipper's name, shipper identification number, consignee's name and address.
- 11. Reimbursement is made for the expenses incurred by a CDFA representative for up to two origin inspection trips for the purpose of verifying that permit requirements are being met at origin.

## Additional conditions and provisions:

- 14. Apples shipped to California under this permit are subject to inspection upon arrival in California. Any grower lot found infested with plum curculio or other serious plant pest shall immediately be shipped out of California and the grower's eligibility to ship under this permit shall be canceled immediately.
- 15. This permit is subject to revocation for violation of any of its conditions or for the detection of plum curculio or any other serious plant pest in any shipment of apples made under the authority of this permit.

Unless earlier revoked, this permit is valid through October 31, 2022.

Dean Kelch

Dean Kelch, Ph.D. Environmental Program Manager Permits & Regulations Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services

cc: Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Josh Kress
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File.

## GUIDELINES FOR SAMPLING HARVESTED APPLES

- 1. Fruit from all grower lots destined for California shall be sampled and inspected.
- 2. The sampling rate is 100 apples per 100 containers in a grower lot.
- 3. The minimum sample size is 100 apples per grower lot.
- 4. The sample shall be drawn from at least 2 containers for each 100 containers in the grower lot.
- 5. The sample shall be examined for external evidence of infestation by plum curculio or other plant pests.
- 6. At least 20 apples shall be cut and inspected internally for evidence of pest infestation.
- 7. If plum curculio or other pest injury is found, at least 100 apples from the grower lot shall be cut and inspected.
- 8. The grower lot shall not be shipped to California if:
  - a. It contains plum curculio or other serious plant pests.
  - b. More than 0.5% of the fruit has internal insect damage.
  - c. More than 4% of the fruit has external insect damage.